

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 07031 041847Z

71

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCEM-02 INT-08 NEA-10 AID-20 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00

XMB-07 OPIC-12 SPC-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

STR-08 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 DRC-01 /227 W

----- 027762

R 041825Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9310

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 7031

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, BE

SUBJECT: RUMORED CLOSING OF CHEVRON REFINERY

1. AMBASSADOR INFORMED BY WELL CONNECTED LOCAL SOURCE DECEMBER 4 THAT CHEVRON REFINERY IN FELUY WILL BE CLOSED BECAUSE "COMPANY MADE DECISION DIVERT ALL CRUDE PETROLEUM SUPPLIES TO EAST COAST U.S. IN ORDER OBTAIN HIGHER PRICES PREVAILING THERE". RUMOR OF CLOSING (BUT FOR DIFFERENT REASON) ALSO REACHED EMBOFF SAME DAY.

2. HOWEVER, SENIOR CHEVRON OFFICIAL IN BRUSSELS DENIED RUMORS WHEN QUERIED BY EMBOFF. HE SAID NO SUCH DECISION TAKEN. HOWEVER, HE POINTED OUT THAT CONTINUED OPERATION OF FELUY REFINERY DEPENDENT UPON DEVELOPMENTS IN INTERNATIONAL SITUATION. FELUY REFINERY OBTAINS ITS CRUDE SUPPLY FROM ARAMCO, PRIMARILY VIA ROTTERDAM PIPELINE (TWO-THIRDS).

FAILURE TO OBTAIN ARAB PERMISSION TO USE ROTTERDAM PIPELINE FOR BELGIAN SUPPLIES, TO FIND SUFFICIENT SMALLER TANKERS IN CASE

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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 07031 041847Z

PIPELINE USE IMPOSSIBLE, AND/OR CONTINUED APPLICATION AND

TIGHTENING OF ARAB RESTRICTIONS ON SHIPMENTS TO BELGIUM, WOULD  
INEVITABLY LEAD TO CLOSING OF REFINERY.

3. THIS TYPE OF STORY BECOMING INCREASINGLY COMMON HERE, WITH  
ANTI-AMERICAN OVERTONES. WE EXPECT MORE AS SUPPLY SITUATION  
TIGHTENS. SEE USIAC BRUSSELS 7004.  
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PETROLEUM, SUPPLIES, REFINERIES, BUSINESS LOSSES, EMBARGOES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 DEC 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973BRUSSE07031  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** BRUSSELS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19731247/aaaabitn.tel  
**Line Count:** 68  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 SEP 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <06-Sep-2001 by rowellE0>; APPROVED <06-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** RUMORED CLOSING OF CHEVRON REFINERY  
**TAGS:** ENRG, BE, XF, CHEVRON  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005